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THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

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VOL. XIX.] WASHINGTON, JANUARY 15, 1842. [No. 2.

Extracts from a sermon delivered in the Methodist Episcopal Church, on Friday the 10th of September, 1841, on the death His Excellency, THOMAS BUCHANAN, late Governor of the Commonwealth of Liberia.

BY ELDER HILARY TEAGE.

IN conclusion, we must be permitted to say something more particularly, relating to our late beloved Chief Magistrate. Governor THOMAS BUCHANAN arrived here in 1839, and directly assumed the administration of the Government of the Colony. His policy, and the character of his administration are known to you all. The condition of the Colony when he arrived, was such as rendered the duties of his office trying and arduous, and demanded no small degree of firmness and moral courage, to perform faithfully. Many ancient land-marks removed from their position, had to be replaced. Salutory laws existing, but lying dormant on the statute book, demanded to be enforced, and other regulations equally required, had to be made and exerted. These and other circumstances, which the time will not permit us even to enumerate, brought him frequently in contact, with some one or another party. But his duty was plain, and he was not the man to shrink from it. In order that we may properly appreciate his character and rightly estimate our loss in his death, I crave your indulgence, while I descend to particulars.

I instance first his influence over the natives, our savage and restless neighbors.

Not unfrequently to be met with in the history of nations, is the fact of some individual's name, from a fortuitous concurrence of circumstances, carrying terror wherever it was heard among his or his country's foes. The brilliant and continuous chain of success, which crowned the campaigns of Napoleon, is to be accounted for as much from this fact, as from their universally admitted skill in their science and courage on the field of combat. Victory was supposed to hover over their march, and in the field, to perch upon their sword. Thus their enemies palsied with terror, were prepared at the very first onset to yield an easy victory, to seek safety in an ignominious flight, or unconditional surrender. From similar co-incidences, united with the strict integrity and good faith, which marked all Governor BUCHANAN's intercourse with the natives—readily conceding to them all their rights, and inflexibly demanding his,—the like impressions pervaded their minds. The brave encounter of him in the hall of palaver or in the field of fight, was regarded by them as an earnest of

defeat. Never was man more feared or respected by the natives than Governor BUCHANAN, nor is there a man in all the colonies, the influence of whose presence can so effectually check and hold in obedience their blustering passions, as did the presence of our lamented Governor. And to relieve my judgment from the imputation of being warped by the partiality of friendship, I am happy that I address many who are witnesses for my assertion, that by many of the natives, he was regarded somewhat more than human.

Many acquainted with the state of feeling among the natives, are already the subjects of anxious forebodings, as to our relations with these people. Freed from the restraint in which fear encharmed them, it is apprehended their restless spirit will not be long in finding a pretext for renewing hostilities. Their ideas of policy, as well as desire to follow the time-hallowed pursuits of their fathers, will long render this Colony an object of their implacable hatred. At the slave trade, their idol, and their source of supplies, we not long since aimed a deadly blow. This they regarded not only a serious affront, but also a serious injury, as their conduct proved at the time. And can any one, acquainted with them be duped into the belief, that they will speedily cease to regard it so, and become inclined to regard us as friends? No, they secretly cherish sentiments of deep revenge.

The circumstances to which I have thus briefly adverted, will serve in part as an answer to any who may inquire, why, if this be the state of feeling, they have not before manifested it. The remaining part of the answer is found in the fact, that Governor BUCHANAN had obtained the occasional presence of American naval vessels, and had kept up a friendly communication with the commanders of the British squadron. The natives in ignorance how far in the way of assistance their friendship would extend, if assistance should at any time be demanded, regarded it as utter madness to array themselves against one so terrible in himself, and backed by such powerful auxiliaries.

But while I believe the remarks in respect of the opinion which the natives entertained of our late Governor to be strictly correct, I am far from supposing we do not possess in ourselves the ability to assert our rights, at any time to teach these savages the folly of the encroachment. Our affliction on this score does not arise so much from the belief, that the death of the Governor has left us unable to combat them, as from the loss of his personal influence, to render a combat unnecessary. The same courage, courage which heretofore animated the bosoms of Liberians, will again animate them when a proper occasion shall call it into play. In the hour of danger they will recollect themselves, and recollect a Buchanan, and advance to their object.

Nor will the benefits of his administration appear less conspicuous if we direct our attention to the military department of the colony:—In what state did Governor Buchanan find this department when he landed here in 1839. There was scarcely a show of military defence. The martial spirit so necessary not only to our peace, but also our existence, had sunk into a slumber from which nothing but his uncommon energy and activity could arouse it. Where were our ordnance and other motions of defence? Our guns dismounted and scattered, the carriages rotten and decayed, proclaimed to the visitor both native and foreign, our weakness and poverty! Soon however, under his vigorous administration, our military preparations assumed a new and formidable aspect. Our guns were remounted, or new and efficient ones took the place of the old and worthless. Arms were placed within the reach of all, and although at the time some dissatisfaction was expressed, with the regulations by which these arms were issued

to the people, (and what regulation was ever adopted here that did not at first encounter opposition,) I leave it to any reasonable man, whether these arms were not a public benefit. It was entirely owing to Governor BUCHANAN's influence at home, that we obtained them; for to an application by Lieut. Governor Williams to the Board for defences for the Colony, he received as answer: "the Board, as punishment for our prodigality with those that had been before sent, would send no further supply." To our departed Governor we owe the respectable and martial show which this house at this time presents; to him we owe the soul-subduing music to which he so much delighted to listen, and whose solemn-measured melody has already to-day, and will presently again restore him from the darkness of the grave, and present him with the ownness of real personality before us.

The chief complaint urged against the Governor by the *citizens* of the commonwealth, was a rigid parsimony in the fiscal concerns of the government. This, however, instead of depressing, should rather exalt his character, when all the circumstances of the case are taken into consideration. A solemn trust had been committed to his hands. To his management had been entrusted the affairs of a society burdened with an enormous debt, and so far sunk into disrepute as to be able to make scarcely any annual collections. To him the society looked, more than to any other man, to retrieve, by his prudence and management, their waning character; to restore to him public confidence; to summon patronage to their aid; and thus enable them to maintain a share of operations, and to silence the clamors of creditors by small annual instalments. This was his duty, and he did lay down his rules; and no consideration of friendship could induce him to depart therefrom. Friends and foes were all meted the same measure, for he was a stranger to favoritism. I can, however, believe that the stern necessity which drove him to adopt this odious rule; was altogether repugnant to the native goodness of his heart, and that it was as much deplored by him as by any one whom I have now the honor to address.

But it is not to the forum of violence, nor to the frozen regions of ceremonial convocation, that you should go, to study the character of man. If you would know it, you must repair to the domestic circle—to the parlor assemblage of private friendships. There he unbends from the stiffness of character assumed to meet the public eye, displays the genuine sentiments of the soul, which itself beams forth without disguise. Governor BUCHANAN in the administration of public affairs, was an altogether different person from Mr. BUCHANAN in the social meeting. There he was firm and inflexible—here he was courteous and affable. In the one he had no friends; in the other, with open arms, he received all; and while a rigid parsimony marked his management of the public funds, a profuse and genteel liberality was displayed in every thing when only his private interest was concerned.

From the charge of selfishness, I feel bold to exempt the lamented subject of our present remarks. If ever a man was free from sinister views, was actuated by pure motives of philanthropy, THOMAS BUCHANAN was; and if ever a man sincerely desired the happiness and prosperity of a people, he was desirous for the happiness and prosperity of this people, and was anxious for their character. In his intercourse with foreigners in his letters abroad, in his published communications, his constant aim was to represent them in the most favorable light that honesty would admit. And objections sometimes urged with much plausibility and apparent justice against our habits, our institutions, and our tardy improvement, he promptly and cheerfully met with every extenuating circumstance the case

would admit. This inflexibility and firmness, in enforcing our laws as well upon citizens as foreigners, who affected to despise, and who wished to disregard them, are known to you all. He advanced steadily along the line of his duty, regardless alike of odium here, and consequences abroad; and to this feature in his administration more than to any thing else, is to attributed that attention which the colony is attracting abroad.

"Wo unto you," says the Oracle of Truth, "when all men speak well of you;" and it seems, therefore, fortunate for the good, that virtue will always have a persecuting enemy in bad men. The tongue of calumny, the malignant spirit of envy, will always seek to detract from the good man's character; and in proportion to the distance there is between him and those to whom he is an object of envy, will be their endeavor to reduce him from an elevation to which, from their moral and mental imbecility, they can never hope to rise. Our Governor experienced, in its full force, the truth of these remarks. But as the sly arts of feigned friendship for selfish purposes failed to seduce, so the more obvious weapons of slander and calumny were powerless to deter him from the apprehended path of his duty.

To say he was not perfect, would be saying no more than that he was man. The sun has his spots. His failings, however, were of the most innocent kind!—such as are triable by all the good with lenity and forbearance. I am not attempting a delineation of his character: that demands an order of talent far above mine. I will only add, that his soul was formed for friendship. Frank and open, he was a stranger to duplicity; and, therefore, weighing the character of others by his own, he sometimes became the victim of design and intrigue. He possessed largely that charity that thinkest no evil, and acknowledged readily whatever was commendable, even in the character of his enemies. He was long in taking offence, invariably placing the most favorable construction upon the saying and doing of others; nor would he unnecessarily offend the meanest or the poorest with whom he might be thrown in contact. He presented a harmonious union of dignity and gentleness. To sum up his character, he was a Christian and a gentleman.

From the Christian Mirror.

A BRIEF TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF THE HON.
THOMAS BUCHANAN,

Late Governor of the Commonwealth of Liberia.

I READ with grief! A source of joy is fled;
The dear BUCHANAN sleeps among the dead!
Yes, he was dear to Afric's sable race;
Dear to Liberia, late the favor'd place
Of his discreet and unremitting care;
Dear to his friends, and all, who knew him there.

Liberia labor'd with increasing weight
Of debt and trials, and a gloomy fate
Seem'd hovering round, with clouds foreboding ill;
BUCHANAN came—the threatening storms were still;
The gathering clouds before him pass'd away,
And gave the land a fair and cheerful day.

Deep were his thoughts, expansive was his mind,
And great his skill the plans his thoughts design'd
Well to sustain; nor did his courage yield
The palm to heroes, when at times the field
Of battle call'd him to repel the foe,
And lay the invaders of Liberia low.

The savage Natives in the region round
In him a friend and kind protector found
Against the slavers: they at length rever'd
His deep laid counsels, and his prowess fear'd.

They sue for peace, and give the willing hand
Of plighted friendship, on his part to stand,
And pledge their faith to give no further aid
To lawless Slavers, in their cruel trade.

Lov'd by the Colonists, and much their friend,
They mourn the briefness, and untimely end
Of his administration. We the same
Mourn from the heart, and venerate his name.

But God has call'd him, and shall we complain?
His race, tho' short, he did not run in vain;
A fair example he has left to guide
Some wise Successor, who may next preside
O'er that bereaved land. Tho' now we grieve,
Our faith assures us God will never leave
The infant nation, planted by his care
To fade and fail, and languish in despair.

Almighty Sovereign, by whose holy will
Nations are raised, their destiny fulfil,
And sink again; thy blessing we implore
To rest long ages on the western shore
Of Africa's dark land, till thence have run,
The glorious gospel towards the rising sun,
Thro' all its vast interior, then have spread
To North and South, reviving still the dead
In sin's vile grave, till not a spot remains
Unwash'd by Christ's rich blood from sin's defiling stains.

HOLEM.

December 18, 1841.

THE following tributes to the memory of GOV. BUCHANAN, are extracted from private letters on buisness from some of our most distinguished patriots and philanthropists. They will excuse the liberty we have taken in publishing them contrary to their expectations. They are so just, so true, and so timely that we cannot withhold them from the public.

FAIRFIELD, CON. Dec. 15, 1841.

DEAR SIR.—* * * I have heard of no event of recent occurrence, affecting the interest of African Colonization, of greater moment than the death of Governor BUCHANAN. He was not only eminently qualified for the station which he held, but equally so for the highest duties, civil or military, which any nation could require. All his words and actions were marked with wisdom, integrity and dignity. His talents, like those of WASHINGTON, were adapted to every exigency, and to accomplish the greatest good was his constant and controlling principle.

If some talented author would write his life, he might so mingle the interests of colonization with the history of this great man, as to produce a useful influence on the public mind.

I am, sir, with great respect, very truly yours,
ROGER M. SHERMAN.

PRINCETON, Dec. 22, 1841.

DEAR SIR.—* * * In common with all the friends of African Colonization, I deplore the premature death of Governor BUCHANAN. I do not know how you will be able to supply his place. He was a man of commanding talents, and admirable decision and courage. But that Providence which has hitherto watched our the interests of this infant colony, will, I trust, bring forward some other suitable person to assume this dangerous and responsible charge.

I am, very respectfully, yours.
A. ALEXANDER.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18, 1841.

Rev. W. McLAIN.

MY DEAR SIR.—I have just received your note covering a copy of a preamble with resolutions passed unanimously at a meeting of your committee and several members of the Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society, held at Washington on the evening of the 13th inst. and after despatches from Lieut. Governor ROBERTS had been read, detailing the melancholy circumstances of the death of our excellent friend Mr. BUCHANAN.

Most sincerely do I sympathise with the society and its friends in the loss they have sustained and the strong sentiments of esteem and affection in which they hold the memory of the late Governor of Liberia. None but He who raised up for us the faithful servant, whom he has now called to rest, can supply the place so made vacant.

I thank the Ex. Committee for the honor they have done me in the request that I would deliver an obituary discourse at the annual meeting and report that it will be entirely out of my power to do so. The state of my voice is such as to forbid my preaching even at home more than once a week, very briefly, or to go out at night, or to travel at this season.

I trust that my friendship for the illustrious dead, and my love for the cause, will be so far acknowledged as to convince the committee and yourself, that I decline the office proposed through necessity.

I am, with great respect, yours,

GEO. W. BETHUNE.

From the Liberia Herald.

MONROVIA, LIBERIA, Sept. 14, 1841.

SUMMARY.

SIERRA-LEONE has a new Governor, W. FERGUSSON, M. D., extensively known for his long and efficient services on this coast, is the present incumbent, may his administration be long—honorable to himself, satisfactory to his government, and beneficial to the people!

The government of Liberia devolves upon His Honor J. J. ROBERTS, Lieut. Governor.

Rain. We have a shower *now* and *then*.

RECIPROCITY. Two expeditions have left Sierra-Leone for the West Indies. They may exchange salutations with the American expedition bound here.

The Neffous and the Nanna Kroos are at war. A party of the former lately attacked a canoe manned by individuals of the latter tribe and murdered four persons. The canoe was employed by the British Brig Englishman, Captain Dyer. The Englishman, returned here in search of a man of war.

The weather has been unprecedentedly boisterous. The schooner Guineaman, Captain Jackson, is said to have lost all her boats and canoes and otherwise seriously interrupted by stress of weather in procuring her load.

Rice is creeping in town again.

The atmosphere is quite *ambrosial* at present.

A large Leopard had the audacity to come in town a few evenings since, and on being approached by a man with a rifle, had the boldness to go out again!

Five slavers, prizes were lying a few weeks since at St. Helena.

RENCOUNTER.—A boat belonging to H. B. M. cruiser the "Hessian" on boarding a large slaving Brig, was sunk along side by the slavers, who

made a desperate resistance aided by the natives, who went on board to their assistance, and one or two of the seamen killed or drowned. The gallant tars however carried him and returned the compliment by killing twenty five of their assailants.

METAMORPHOSIS.—The little forty tons schooner which was here not long since with a load of Onions and Potatoes, was lately found on the coast of West Indies.

The Potatoes and Onions had changed into little boys and girls, and lest these little boys and girls would take it into their heads to change into doubloons, they were taken charge of, in the name of Her Britanic Majesty.

MARSHALL OR JUNK SCHOOL.—The Rev. DANIEL WARE, Missionary at Marshall or Junk, writes that the day school is in a prosperous condition; numbering upwards of thirty pupils. A few days since, we were besieged by no less than seven letters, from the pupils of this school. They all went to show improvement, and to beg and beseech that we would send them an additional supply of elementary books, such as spelling books, readers, arithmetics, grammars, &c. &c. The *turn out*, took us by surprise, and we capitulated by granting the articles.

One little boy writes thus :

MARSHALL, August 30, 1841.

SIR:—I hope you are enjoying good health. My object in writing to you, is to let you know my need. I am going to school, but have no books, of a proper kind. I am willing to get my education; but cannot without books. I will inform you what kind we want here. First class spelling books; second class spelling books, reading books, primers, and a few grammars and arithmetics.

Another,—a little girl says :

My object for writing is to inform you that we are going to school; but have not enough of books; so the scholars have agreed to write to you; knowing that you are capable of supplying us. You know we cannot learn without books. Now I will let you know what kind we want. Primers, spelling books, reading books, slates, slate-pencils, arithmetics, and grammars; and if you will try and oblige us, so that we children can learn, we will try and satisfy you for them. Please, sir, excuse this writing for the first.

The above samples, are a fair specimen, of the contents and character, of the "seven letters." Of course we are not deaf to such calls and appeals. Marshall school, shall be supplied with books and stationery, by the first opportunity. It shall also receive a copy of Africa's Luminary; so long as this disposition to learn and improve continues.

Marshall is a colonial settlement, on the Atlantic coast, at the mouth of the Junk river; and is about thirty miles south from Monrovia. It is named after the late, Judge MARSHALL, of the United States. There are, at this place, some forty or fifty Americans; who are engaged principally in trading, with the natives, for palm oil, camwood and ivory. The settlement does not improve. The dwellings, except the M. E. Mission house, and chapel, are after the native style.

Marshall, was founded, during the governmental administration, of the Rev. EZEKIEL SKINNER. It was supposed to be a more healthy location than Monrovia or Bassa Cove; and we are informed that the chief ground of this opinion, was based upon the fact, that oysters are very plentiful and of easy access, in the river at that place. Marshall supplies Monrovia, Caldwell, Millsburg and other places, with lime, which is procured by burning oyster and other shells.

BASSA COVE SCHOOL.—The report from our school at Bassa Cove, states, that there are thirty-four regular pupils; and that the school is doing very well. The Rev. JAMES H. STEVENS, is the teacher of this school. He writes, that most of the scholars are improving; and he hopes to be able shortly, to give a still more increasingly interesting account of his school and charge, at Bassa Cove.

It will be recollected, that in our last, we gave an account, of seven or eight schools; above we add two more. There are several others, not yet reported to us, viz: Edina, Sinoe, Robertsville, and those at Cape Palmas.—*Africa's Luminary.*

NECROLOGY.—A late vessel from Africa brought the unpleasant and painful intelligence of the death of Thomas Buchanan, Esq., Governor of Liberia. The time and circumstances attending his decease, we have not been able to learn. Governor Buchanan was the last of those talented and eminent men who have been swept off during their administration of the government of that Colony—Ashmun and Randal were his predecessors. None others have fallen while acting as agents of the Society. It is not our intention to attempt an eulogy on Mr. Buchanan, although we knew him well as an accomplished gentleman, a brave and able commander, a sagacious and patriotic magistrate, and a consistent and exemplary christian. But little avails the tribute of "the lettered page or storied urn" to him who has fallen a martyr to a high and holy calling. The common language of panegyric serves rather to tarnish than bedizen the fame of him who has voluntarily sacrificed home, country, friends, the fairest hopes, and periled life itself, to serve those whose only claim was based upon the common brotherhood of humanity, their sufferings and their sorrows. The man who can thus act, and thus suffer, enjoys a nobler satisfaction than can arise from human praise or adulation, receives a richer recompense than can be awarded in this world. Still we have some recollections that tell us, that however high and noble our resolves, however sincere and deliberate our determination to persevere, and even perish in a work so truly glorious, yet the idea of falling a victim to disease, far removed from our home and friends, and all that we hold dear in life, was ever exceedingly painful, and we cannot doubt such feelings must have been experienced by Buchanan in his last hours.—*Ibid.*

Morieur, et moriens dulces reminiscitur Argos.

CUBA.—By the subjoined extract from the New Orleans Bulletin of the 5th ult., we have further rumors of the design of Great Britain on Cuba:

A commercial gentleman, who had spent some weeks in Havana, informs his correspondent, in this city, that he has become satisfied from information he has obtained in the best quarters, that England is negotiating with Spain for a cession of Cuba. Some of the steps he has learned the British Government have taken in the matter he states thus:—"The English demand the liberation of the negroes introduced here since the treaty of 1820, as being called for by the spirit of that document. The government at Madrid referred the question to the Governor here, who called a junto of rich people—they answered (with one exception) we cannot allow it. Now, England has said it *must* be done. If the Regent of Spain says to Cuba, *do it*, and the people of Cuba persist in saying *no*—what will be the result? Submission to such a demand seems to me to be out of the question. A proud Spaniard asked me the other day, if I thought that the United States would accept of the Island! I answered, I believe the Island would be received, but you must first achieve your own independence—then she will acknowledge you, and take you in a partner. But the grand question is, will Uncle Sam allow *Bully Bull* to take possession here, even if old Spain consents?"

WASHINGTON CITY, JANUARY 15, 1842.

THE present number completes the first year of our Editorial labors. Our time has been so much occupied with other duties connected with colonization, that we have only been able to devote a few hasty thoughts to the important office of editing this Journal. Still we have done the best we could. We return our thanks to our friends for their patience. We hope it may please the Board of Directors to appoint an editor who will have more talent and time to devote to his duties and make the Repository what it ought to be.

OUR NEXT.—In our next number we shall hope to lay before our readers the whole or a part of the Annual Report of the American Colonization Society which we trust will be an interesting document, calculated to excite the friends of this sublime enterprise to new zeal and increased activity in its advancement.

The Report and proceedings of the Annual meeting will also be soon published in pamphlet form, for gratuitous distribution. Persons wishing an extra number of copies will please send in their orders without delay.

FATAL NEWS.

THE latest news which we have received from the British Niger Expedition, was of the most melancholy kind. It had not yet reached the mouth of the Niger, and had lost some thirty men with the coast fever—and nearly all on board had been more or less sick. This augurs very badly for the success of the enterprise. And should it fail, we know not what one can succeed, manned by *white* men. The greatest care has been bestowed upon all the preparatory arrangements. None could be better managed. And yet it is likely to be a total and a signal failure.

We have often advanced the opinion that the Divine Ruler of the universe had made the climate of Africa for the colored man, and we are confirmed in this opinion by every effort made by white men to penetrate the interior and appropriate to themselves the productions of its fertile soil. If there is no other barrier to prevent the white man from spoiling and destroying the colored man, the climate of Africa presents such a barrier to any well organised effort to penetrate his country and rule him on his own soil.

We hope those who are seeking the welfare of the colored race, will think of and improve this fact.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE twenty-fifth annual meeting of the American Colonization Society will be held in the city of Washington on the third Tuesday instant, being the 18th day of the month.

According to the Constitution of the Society, each auxiliary society having contributed one thousand dollars to the funds of the American Colonization Society the past year, is entitled to two delegates in the Board of Directors.

We trust such societies will be punctual in sending up their representations.

GOOD FRIENDS.—Several of our subscribers have sent us substantial evidences of their attachment to the cause in which we are engaged. They have not only made payment for their own paper, but have also added some new names to our list. They are engaged in a good cause. They have our hearty thanks for their kind attentions. We hope they will be both zealously affected in a good cause, and persevere unto the end.

If all our subscribers would *pay up*, it would relieve us from much embarrassment and enable us to make many improvements in the appearance of the Repository, which are much needed. We desire much to make these improvements, but, though our subscription list is large and very respectable, still we cannot venture on any extra expense until we receive some of the many sums now due us. Surely our friends will not withhold more than is mete. The small sums that each one owes will not make any deficit in their own resources while it will add greatly to the sum total of ours.

THE COUNTRY DEVIL.

In another column, will be found, a short account of Mumbo-Jumbo, or African God of the Woods; copied from the Journal of a Sailor.

Mumbo-Jumbo, seems to be to the Africans on the Gambia coast; what the "Country Devil," is to the tribes around Liberia.

The Country Devil is a native, generally of a gigantic stature, who when initiated into the office, performs the duties of an arch agent, to his Satanic Majesty; and rules the people in a most despotic manner.

Children, youth, and women, are not allowed, under any consideration to know what, and who he is; and live. They are kept in the most abject subjection to him; and from his decision there is no appeal. He is made an absolute arbiter between kings, and head men, and in all *palavers* of a difficult nature. Females are always kept in ignorance as to who the Country Devil is, and he is most frequently invoked, to decide disturbances growing out of infringements of domestic and social laws. Men are allowed to present the case to him, but women dare not address him; neither will he allow the parties to argue with him, it is sufficient, that the difficulty be made known to him and he proceeds to declare judgment, which is always submitted to, and supposed to be just, and lawful.

We learn from our missionary at Robertsville, that a palaver was held some fifteen miles in the interior from Robertsville; and that an old king, finding that he would be worsted, declared his determination to call in the Country Devil to decide the matter. To this the other party objected; and declared that he knew what the Country Devil was, and therefore would not be governed by him. That if the Country Devil came he would shoot him. This announcement was the highest form of insurrection; decidedly revolutionary; notwithstanding the Devil's immortality. Therefore the poor man must suffer for saying he would do, what the united wisdom of all nations and past ages, prove cannot be done, viz: shoot the Devil! He however, declared his intention of keeping his word, and trying at least; for the missionaries had told his people, that there is nothing in the Country Devil, and he believed them. He also said that the old king wanted to impose on him, and destroy his reputation, because he was young; and he thought he had as good a right to women as the old king.

The old king persisted and sent for the Country Devil. The opposing party sent his boys into the woods with guns upon their shoulders, and instructed them to shoot down, the first object that came along the path, provided it would not speak or have the appearance of a human being. Shortly, along came the Devil, roaring and yelling in a most hideous manner, and presenting a most frightful figure; the boys hailed, once, twice, thrice, and receiving nothing but the usual evidences of the Devil, such as roaring and the menacing gestures; they let off their guns and brought him to the ground, stripped off his horns, thatch straw, bells and other articles of covering and terror, and exposed the dead body of a fellow man, who they had just sent into Eternity! The women were called, and made to look and believe that the Country Devil is a human being. Thus has truth triumphed over error and superstition. The whole country is rejoicing; and they now pay no respect to the Country Devil.

This is a true story.—*Africa's Luminary.*

COLONIZATION.

A convention of the friends of Colonization was held according to appointment, in the Vestry of the third Church on Monday evening the 20th instant.

Mr. JOHNATHAN HYDE, was appointed Chairman, and S. B. GOODENOW, Clerk.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. ELLINGWOOD.

Voted, That it is expedient to form a Colonization Society in this place.

The Constitution which was presented, was then considered, and adopted, article by article.

The Society then proceeded to the choice of Officers and the following persons were unanimously elected.

LEVI HOUGHTON, President.

CHARLES DAVENPORT, Secretary.

JONATHAN HYDE, Treasurer.

Voted, That the Secretary present a copy of the proceedings of this meeting for publication in the Lincoln Telegraph.

The Society then adjourned.

JONA. HYDE, *Chairman.*

S. B. GOODENOW, Clerk.—*Lincoln Telegraph,*

MUNIFICENT DONATION.—The Lenox Eagle states that the late Mr. Cyrus Williams of Stockbridge, not long before his death gave about \$12,000 to the following benevolent objects?—To the Academy in that town, 4,000; and by will to the American Bible Society, 2,000; Foreign Mission Society, 1,500; Home Mission Society, 1,500; Tract Society, 1,500; Education Society, 1,000; Seamen's Friend Society, 1,000; Evangelical society, 1,000; Colonization Society, 500.

One thousand dollars of the money given to the Bible Society is to be appropriated toward printing the Scriptures for the use of the blind.

The sum given to the New York Colonization Society to be applied toward the expense of transporting to Liberia or elsewhere, colored persons from N. England, and if none offer to go, then persons of color from other States.—*Northamp. Courier.*

FOR THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

MR. EDITOR: It always has been, and is to me now, a matter of profound astonishment and regret, that so few people compared with the mass of our white population in the United States, know at all much of the objects and utility of the Colonization Society, or knowing, care so little for its purposes, especially in the South. This like an improvidence, a forgetting of the past and thoughtlessness of the future—a want of forecast and an apathy of enterprize, that would apparently leave the brunt of the business as to the final restoration of the colored people, to some succeeding generation. Age is always saddling on posterity the duty of an emergency—and our children are they that are left to complete moral intentions—the coming Herculesees, to fulfil the great labours of the age! This is want of philosophy, or of the penetration that attends that correct way of thinking belonging to the philosopher. Few men are genuine philosophers, and of course, the friends of colonization are few and scattered. Do not the south see that the next generation of men, now infants and children, might adopt from force of habit and education, or the ill-directed resources of interests, the very reasoning now in vogue here, and postpone to the second and third generations, if not to all time, that support of the society which now occupies no place in their thoughts, or is left to the superior inspiration of posterity. This is what I denominate improvidence. And it may stand a question, which is most improvident, the wild negro savage in the forests of Africa, who all day drowzes and all night dances; or the *southern opponent* to the colonization scheme, who provides nothing for the future disposal of the colored population, but to leave them in the country or make them a dernier legacy to his posterity; who perhaps will little thank their fathers for the entailment of the trouble of attending to the fortunes or misfortunes of the Farm, instead of bringing them up to some independent trade! Our fathers of the Revolution did not make a virtue of an evident necessity, and leave it to us in our better growth and greater numeration to brook the power of England over these then feeble colonies. *They bequeathed not unfinished labours to their posterity!* We have now a great work, which instead of manfully and deliberately settling, we appear as counting the costs of the interests and taking a survey of the premises, with the view of particularizing parcels to different legatees, without a solitary thought of the consequences of prolonging their stay in this country, for centuries, which many seem determined to do.

Many say they would gladly get rid of their negroes, if they but had a good chance: but they never contributed a dollar to the Treasury of the Society. If these gentlemen would find a chance for any thing, they must be the *creators of the chance*, for chance does not come by mere chance, but opportunities are the results, often if not always, of skilful application and unremitting industry. Many also say they see nothing but abolition in disguise in the colonization plan: aside from the fact that the originators and fathers of the Society were eminent Southern men, many of whom are guiding political stars to the South;—revered when living; lamented as dead;—men against whom no charge of sinister calculations against their country can fix, and who originated the society long before abolition had uttered a word—aside from this view—the very crisis to which the country is tending with an inevitable propulsion and vast momentum, would admonish them to take into wise and timely consideration the propriety of finding a colony at a distance, which in peace and in war may serve as a refuge to the children of Ham, while the relief afforded shall prove mutual. If this course be necessary, why not extend the friendly hand to the plan—instead of forever comparing darker aspects and cogi-

tating horrors out of the most worthy and feasible institution expedient to correct the growing evil of abolition itself. The very thing that *lessens* the power of abolition cannot be abolition itself—"for a house cannot be divided against itself and stand." Destroy the influence of Colonization; scatter the system to the stormy winds; make Liberia an abandoned and forsaken site;—leave Slavery and Abolition alone as antagonists to settle the question according to the potency of either party;—and what is the result or element left? Why the fact will be an increase of our dangers. The conflicts of Legislation will be but the prelude to those of the embattled plains. The power then, of the Abolitionists will, from the great mass of the uncolonized negroes left in the country, that had been carried to Liberia *by the Society*, be greater—and in proportion to the loss of the system will be our difficulty. Already Virginia and Kentucky, southern border States, are calculating the value and policy of slavery and freedom. The chance of either hangs on a balance that can be altered by a few grains more of sand. Should freedom to the slaves be once declared in these States, no alternative will be left to the South but to adopt their example of Emancipation or absolute abolition, or to continue a long dissatisfactory and troublesome discussion and excitement, that would be a burden to our children and force them, to pursue the pathway of Virginia! or if the present generation declare war and enter into civil feuds, what will that avail this section before the tremendous power of the West and the North. The crisis will be one of martyrdom to the refractory minority, or something quite equivalent. Are we then to choose martyrdom or to subject our progeny to this condition should they keep faithful to the counsels of their progenitors? This would be the meditations of maniacs or lunatics, for every thing even politics, has to yield to the extreme exigences of certain occasions, and instead of giving into the unsound deliberations of the desperate, let us give in to the exigency of having and supporting the colonization society, which by making Liberia a good place for the present free emigrant Africans, may curtail here their increase and numbers and by diminishing their present force, forestall and countermand the murderous intents of the disaffected abolitionists.

If the South would not now agree to aid the Colonizing plan, we must await better times and wiser heads, at least on this particular consideration. If nothing else would, necessity will one day force this section to embrace the Society as a *firm friend as she has ever been to these States*. The operation of this necessity though slow will be sure. It is as certain and irreversible as a law of nature.

But even supposing this hope of security in this species of property to be fulfilled in all extent with the South—is there no moral and religious consideration to be taken as to the treatment of the slaves. I have often told my neighbors in Georgia that if the slaves were forever to be retained in this country as such, they should as a part of our religious duty be taught to read the scriptures. (There is no danger of this turning to the harm of the proprietors especially under the supervision of a regular police.) Why should the blacks be kept so ignorant of God and his attributes, for fear they might read abolition tracts? It cannot be from them alone that we have any thing to fear in the war of insurrection, unconnected with other movements—The first blow will be struck from the North, (if struck at all), and the matter of having the slave, to read or not, will never alter the case as to what would be the circumstance attending a civil war as to their action. If forever to be kept for slaves I think they ought to have schools. For the free colored people a more congenial plan presents itself in the view of Liberia. Send them away to that country of

their ancestors and let them there have their schools. And let every man do something for the advancement of Colonization, for all can contribute something, howsoever, penurious. Africa is the natural home of the colored race. The very difference of complexion, of climate, of habits and frame of mind, forbid us to suppose the nations were not designed to be separately settling the Earth as they are found.—It was the plan of Jehovah to give Asia to SHEM, Europe to JAPHAT and Africa to HAM. No contrivance of man can alter this primeval separation. The laws of nature have to be suspended and a new order of things intervene, before the whole face of the Earth and all people become homogenous. How wise, then, and how happy, for us to follow the original indications of the will of the all-wise God, and to permit the African to cultivate his own fields under his inheritance from his ancestors, while we adapt our own habits to our condition, and embellish our own heritage by our own independent labors, with colossal cities and smiling fields, and undisturbed by the recollections of the slave trade by the presence of that party spirit which array against each other the North and the South, and undismayed by doubtful forebodings as to the future, we might become a great people, and what is above all other consideration, receive the Divine blessings as a quiet, pacific and thriving commonwealth.

JOHN JAMES FLOURNOY.

WELLINGTON, NEW ATHENS, GA., Nov. 1, 1841.

A BRUTAL OUTRAGE.

Captain Dyer, of the brig *Englishman*, arrived here on the 17th ult. from the Kroo country, and detailed to us the particulars of a brutal outrage which was committed upon four natives in his employ. Briefly the case is as follows:

Niffou and Nanna-Kroo are two considerable towns on this coast, in what is known as Kroo country, and in about the 5th degree of north latitude. Niffou is inhabited by a portion of the tribe of Fishmen: Nanna-Kroo, by Kroomen. Between the two, wars and deadly feuds have existed for a length of time. Captain Dyer, on his way along this coast, had stopped at Monrovia some three weeks since, and as usual, employed Kroomen at this place to accompany him in his trading voyage, and to work his boats, &c. On arriving at Niffou, he ascertained that his Kroomen were from Nanna-Kroo, from demands which the Niffou people made upon him to deliver his boys up to them—a custom which prevails among most savage tribes, and some civilized too. Captain Dyer refused to give up his Kroomen to their enemies, knowing that if he did, they would be beheaded.

The Niffou people watched an opportunity, and at a time when Captain Dyer's boats and men were employed, they surrounded one of his canoes while passing from the brig to the shore, seized four of his Kroomen, and struck off their heads immediately upon landing upon the beach. While this was going on, one of the captain's mates was trading at Nanna-Kroo, which is in sight of the former place. The news soon reached the people to whom the Kroomen belonged, and they seized the mate and boats, declaring that as the Niffou people had taken Nanna-Kroomen from Dyer and killed them, he, Dyer, must pay for them. Captain Dyer hastened to his mate, and remonstrated against the measure; told them that he had refused to give up those men; but that they had been violently taken and murdered. To this they only replied that he must pay, and for default they carried him to the palaver-house. For a length of time his situation was critical; however, by promising to endeavor to procure the presence of a man-of-war to knock down Niffou, they suffered him to depart uninjured.—*Africa's Luminary*.

THE SLAVE TRADE—RIGHT OF SEARCH.—We publish to-day the voluminous correspondence between Mr. Stevenson, our late Minister to England, and the British Foreign Secretary, relative to the visitation and search of several American vessels by British cruisers on the coast of Africa. The British Minister distinctly disavows, on the part of his Government, any claim to the right of visiting and searching American vessels in the time of peace; but states that "it has been the invariable practice of the British Navy, and as he believes, of all navies in the world, to ascertain the real nationality of merchant vessels met with on the high seas, if there be good reason to apprehend their illegal character."

In certain latitudes, (he says,) and for a particular object, the vessels referred to are visited, not as American, but as either British vessels engaged in an unlawful traffic, and carrying the flag of the United States for a criminal purpose, or as belonging to States which have by treaty conceded to Great Britain the right of search, and which right it is attempted to defeat by fraudulently bearing the protecting flag of the Union; or, finally, they are visited as piratical outlaws, possessing no claim to any flag or nationality whatever.

* * * * * He farther admits that so much respect and honor are due to the American flag, that no vessels bearing it ought to be visited by a British cruiser except under the most grave suspicions and well founded doubts of the genuineness of its character.

The undersigned, although with pain, must add, that if such visit should lead to the proof of the American origin of the vessel, and that she was avowedly engaged in the slave trade, exhibiting to view the manacles, fetters, and other usual implements of torture, or had even a number of these unfortunate beings on board, no British officer could interfere further.

He might give information to the cruisers of the United States, but it would not be in his own power to arrest or hinder the prosecution of the voyage and success of the undertaking.

It appears that the search and detention of the *Douglass*, and other American vessels, prior to the opening of the present correspondence, was made under an agreement between the commander of the British Squadron on the African coast, and Lieut. Payne, of the U. S. ship *Grampus*, allowing the mutual right of searching and detaining all British and American vessels found trading in slaves. The agreement, Mr. Stevenson says, was unauthorized by the American Government. "Such cases however," says Lord Palmerston, (who was Lord Aberdeen's predecessor in the Foreign Office,) "cannot happen again; because positive orders were sent by the Admiralty, in February last, to all Her Majesty's cruisers employed for the suppression of the slave trade, not again to detain or meddle with the United States vessels engaged in the slave trade. These orders have been sent by Her Majesty's Government with great pain and regret, but as an act due by them to the rights of the United States." The controversy is therefore narrowed down to the single point, whether vessels suspected *not* to be American, but to have hoisted the American flag for criminal purposes, may be boarded by British cruisers on the African coast, in order to ascertain their true character. It is admitted that if they prove to be American vessels, they cannot further be molested by British cruisers, whether engaged in the slave trade or not. The British Minister maintains that this faculty of preliminary visitation for the sake of inquiry is absolutely necessary to the success of the efforts of the British government to extinguish the slave-trade. He says,—

"There is an essential and fundamental difference between searching a vessel and examining her papers to see whether she is legally provided

with documents entitling her to the protection of any country, and especially of the country whose flag she may have hoisted at the time. For though, by common parlance, the word "flag" is used to express the test of nationality, and though according to that acceptation of the word, Her Majesty's Government admit that British cruisers are entitled, in time of peace, to search merchant vessels sailing under the American flag, yet Her Majesty's Government do not mean thereby to say that a merchantman can exempt himself from search by merely hoisting a piece of bunting with the United States emblems and colors upon it; that which Her Majesty's Government mean, is, that the rights of the United States flag exempt a vessel from search, when that vessel is provided with papers entitling her to wear that flag, and proving her to be United States property, and navigated according to law.

But this fact cannot be ascertained unless an officer of the cruiser whose duty it is to ascertain this fact, shall board the vessel, or unless the master of the merchantman shall bring his papers on board the cruiser; and this examination of papers of merchantmen suspected of being engaged in the slave trade, even though they may hoist a United States flag, is a proceeding which it is absolutely necessary that British cruisers employed in the suppression of the slave trade should continue to practice, and to which Her Majesty's Government are fully persuaded that the United States Government cannot, upon consideration object."

Mr Stevenson replies, in effect, that the right claimed by the British government, is as much an infraction of the principles of public law and the rights of independent States, as that of search, which is disclaimed; and that if British cruisers cannot suppress the slave trade without resorting to such interference, they must leave it unsuppressed. His language is, "if Great Britain or any other nation cannot restrain the slave traffic of their own people upon the ocean without violating the rights of other nations and the freedom of the seas, then indeed the impunity of which Lord Aberdeen speaks, will take place. This may be deplored, but it cannot be avoided." Mr. Stevenson's argument against the right of boarding American vessels in order to ascertain whether they are in fact American, is as strong, it seems to us, as the nature of the case admits. Perhaps it is conclusive. But it is well worth the inquiry, whether, within certain parallels of latitude and longitude, on the African coast, what is denied as a right, might not be mutually conceded for a specified period, as a privilege, for the sake of humanity; provided always, that the examination should proceed no farther than is necessary to ascertain the nationality of the vessel, and should be conducted in a respectful and becoming manner. We are aware that our government has once refused to enter into a treaty with Great Britain for the mutual right of search in the African seas,—but it appears to us there are not the same objections to the mutual right of *Visitation*, if made with the express stipulation that on proof being furnished that the vessel is American, the inquiry shall proceed no further. Our vessels in those seas are not very numerous, and the rights or privilege might be so guarded, we should think, as to occasion no serious inconvenience to our commerce, while it would enable the British cruisers to proceed without embarrassment in the suppression of the most detestable traffic that ever disgraced humanity. We hope this subject will receive the attention of Congress at the present session.—*Jour. of Commerce.*